GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5879
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2003
INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to formulate and unfold guidelines for incentives that will be provided to induce corporate and big companies for farm infrastructure;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have decided to extend facilities to big companies to invest in farm infrastructure, processing, packaging, storage, R&D and agricultural extension to enable them to become producers instead of being traders and processors;

(c) if so, the details of the guidelines; and

(d) the details of the projects that will be undertaken by them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) Taking into account various factors that limit agricultural productivity, quality of produce etc. such as inadequate investments in the sector, the Government contemplates facilitating and promoting association of corporates in the implementation of agri-export zones (AEZ). For this purpose, appropriate incentives may be provided, subject to their feasibility.